

Appln No. 09/112,777
Amdt. Dated May 04, 2004
Response to Office action of February 24, 2004

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action has been carefully considered. The issues raised are traversed and addressed below with reference to the relevant headings and paragraph numbers appearing under the Detailed Action of the Office Action.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

In response to the Examiner's objections raised in paragraph 5 of the office action, we are submitting herewith comments for consideration by the Examiner.

In particular, in claim 1 as amended in our previous response includes the feature of fitting curves to the remaining features and stroking the image with the brush strokes in accordance with the curves. We respectfully submit that this not shown by any of the prior art documents.

In particular, as acknowledged by the Examiner in paragraph 5 Ogniewicz fails to disclose fitting curves to the remaining features.

The Examiner goes on to discuss Litwinowicz but does not refer to fitting curves to the remaining features. We have carefully reviewed this document and agree with the Examiner's analysis in that Litwinowicz does not describe brush stroking to remaining features at any point. In view of this, we believe that this document also does not describe stroking the image with brush strokes in accordance with the fitted curves.

We therefore submit that as neither of the cited documents described fitting curves to remaining features, then claim 1 is novel and inventive over the cited documents.

If the Examiner is minded to maintain the objection, we would appreciate an indication of where in Litwinowicz the fitting of curves is described.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the objections and claim rejections have been successfully traversed and addressed. The amendments do not involve adding any information that was not already disclosed in the specification, and therefore no new matter is added. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claims 1 to 4 and 7, and the application as a whole with these claims, are allowable, and a favourable reconsideration is therefore earnestly solicited.

Very respectfully,

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